17. नागालैंड	30	33	32	43
18. उड़ीसा	423	434	455	470
19. पंजाब	4365	4626	4972	5142
20. राजस्थान	3911	4036	4217	4339
21. तमिलनाडु	3109	3238	3410	3375
22. त्रिपुरा	26	27	27	29
23. उत्तर प्रदेश	8595	8824	9145	9692
24. पश्चिम बंगाल	2664	2704	2805	2912
25. सिक्किम	22	25	27	28
26. अखिल संघ शासित	296	299	304	327
	46671	48408	51448	53716

Import of wheat and milk

2511. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that wheat is being imported despite claims of bumper production and Green Revolution;

(b) whether it is also a fact that same situation exists for milk imports despite claims of White Revolution; and

(c) whether there are any inade quacies for estimating foodgrain pro duction as has been the case with milk production figures and if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken to streamline commodity forecasting system?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) Government has decided to import one million tonnes of wheat with a view to increase its availability and to contain the market prices.

(b) Conserved milk commodities namely skimmed milk powder and butter oil|white butter are received from European Economic Community under Operation Flood Programme.

(c) Estimates of foodgrains production and milk production are based on scientifically designed sample surveys.

Alternative agriculture

2512. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) "whether Government's attention has been drawn to a blueprint for development brought out by the U.S. National Research Council as appeared in the Pioneer of 25th January, 1992;

(b) whether Government are aware of the new thinking of Alternative Agriculture world-wise, aimed at moving away from chemical-agriculture; and

(c) whether Government propose to set up a high-powered Committee for study of Alternative or sustainable Agriculture at the earliest?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI K. C. LENKA). (a) Yes, Sir

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) An Expert Group of Eminent Scientists has been constituted to advise on strategies towards goals of sustainability.

2513. [Transferred *to* the 26th March, 1992].

World Bank Report on Agriculture

2514. SHRI PRABHAKAR B. KORE:

SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the criticism of Agriculture R and D by World Bank in its confidential report, as reported in the E.T. of 21st October, 1991 and if so full details thereof and corrective steps taken if any;

(b) whether it is correct that ICAR evaluation system has failed to be effective; and

(c) whether a high powered Evaluation Team is proposed to be set up to evaluate the work of ICAR with special reference to its role and success and otherwise of ensuring food Security for the future vis-a-vis continued imports of farm products?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI K. C. LENKA): (a) Sir, The report which appeared in the Economic Times of October 21, 1991 under the caption "Indian Agriculture: the World Bank View" discussess the entire gamut of Indian agricultural development. It says that research effort has neglected farm management and has primarily been on plant breeding for foodgrains and other crops,

In order to increase productivity per unity area and also to ensure increased inbuilt sustainaoility, the present thrust of agricultural research is on diversification of cropping system by promoting new crops and also by increased coverage under crops suited for the non-traditional areas. Apart from providing improved varieties of seeds to farmers, the approach is on ecologically sound integrated pest management.

(b) ICAR evaluation system has not been found to be ineffective.

(c) No Sir.

Degradation of land

2515. SHRI PRABHAKAR B. KORE:

SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the land degradation in the country has taken alarming proportions threatening food production as also quality of lives of poor farmers and if so, factors leading to this situation;

(b) what has been the actual area of land so degraded as in 1960, 1970, 1980 and 1990;

(c) what corrective steps have been taken/proposed to be taken in the matter during the 8th plan period; and

(d) whether Government have any plans to follow the lead given in this matter by the US National Research Council as brought out in a review on the subject by the noted writer A. T. Dudani in the Pioneer of 25th January, 1992?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE